

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Claim Amendments

The Applicants have amended Claims 27, 39, 43, 49, and 51-53. No claims have been added or canceled. Support for the amendments to independent Claims 27, 39, and 49 can be found, *inter alia*, at paragraphs [0045], [0052], [0053], [0085], and [0099]. Claims 43 and 51-53 have been amended to address minor antecedent basis and/or dependency issues. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added.

Consequently, Claims 27-53 continue to be pending in the Application. Favorable reconsideration of the Application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

2.) Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner declined to fully consider the information disclosures statements filed 09/27/2005 and 01/03/2007 because they "fail to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each cited foreign patent document..." and "fail to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609 because the non-patent literatures are missing relevant information..."

Applicants now submit an amended information disclosure statement which includes copies of the listed references and appropriate citations for each item.

Consideration of the cited references, and indication of such consideration, is hereby respectfully requested.

3.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §101

The Examiner rejected Claims 39-53 on the asserted basis that those claims are directed to non-statutory subject matter. This assertion and the 35 U.S.C. §101 rejection are hereby respectfully traversed. Claims 39-53 are drafted in "means-plus-function" format.

The "means-plus-function" format is explicitly authorized by U.S. Statute. Specifically, 35 U.S.C. §112, Sixth Paragraph, reads as follows:

An element in a claim for a combination may be expressed as a means or step for performing a specified function without the recital of structure, material, or acts in support thereof, and such claim shall be construed to cover the corresponding structure, material, or acts described in the specification and equivalents thereof.

Thus, claims to a combination of elements that are expressed in a "means-plus-function" format are to be "construed to cover the corresponding structure, material, or acts described in the specification and equivalents thereof."

It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claims 39-53 are directed to statutory subject matter under 35 U.S.C. §101 in accordance with the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §112, Sixth Paragraph.

Consequently, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §101 rejections is hereby respectfully requested.

4.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(a)

Claims 27-53 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Hannu, *et al.* (US RFC 3321). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of Claims 27-53.

Claim 27, by way of example, now reads as follows:

27. (Previously Presented) A data signaling method for message-based communication between a first communications unit and a second communications unit, said method comprising the steps of:

initiating said message-based inter-unit communication by providing, in said first communications unit, *a state comprising communications unit-associated data common to multiple communications messages* to be transmitted between said first communications unit and said second communications unit;

generating a copy of said state;

transmitting said state copy and a first identifier of said state copy from said first communications unit to said second communications unit;

*generating a second identifier based on said received state copy;
comparing said received first identifier and said generated second
identifier;*

storing said state copy in said second communications unit; and
*processing, if said second identifier corresponds to said first identifier,
a communications message of said multiple communications messages
using said state or said state copy by modulating a size of said
communications message based on at least a portion of said
communications unit-associated data.*

(italicized emphasis added)

Thus, Claim 27 now includes the following element: **a state comprising communications unit-associated data common to multiple communications messages.**

The current Office action on Pages 3 and 4, at Paragraph #6, in the rejection of independent Claim 27, reads as follows:

With respect to 27, In RFC 3321, Hannu discloses initiating said message-based inter-unit communication by providing, in said first communications unit, *a state comprising communications unit-associated data applicable for multiple communications messages to be transmitted between said first communications unit and said second communications unit (pg. 3, Figure 1)* generating a copy of said state (pg. 4, "4.1. Overview of.. .", lines 3-4, "If compressor... ") transmitting said state copy and a first identifier of said state copy from said first communications unit to said second communications unit (pg. 7, Figure 2, where it can be seen that m1(s0) is transmitted from the first unit to the second) *generating a second identifier based on said received state copy (pg. 5, paragraph 1, "Legend: Message 1... ") comparing said received first identifier and said generated second identifier (pg. 9, "(4): If endpoint 2... ")* storing said state copy in said second communications unit (pg. 7, Figure 2) and processing, if said second identifier corresponds to said first identifier, a communications message of said multiple communications messages using said state or said state copy by modulating a size of said communications message based on at least a portion of said communications unit-associated data (pg. 4, "4.1. Overview of.. .", where the message is compressed and decompressed)

(previous emphasis removed; *italicized* emphasis added;
underlined-italicized emphasis added)

Hence, the current Office action uses RFC 3321, which is directed to extended operations of Signaling Compression (SigComp), to reject Claim 27. The remarks below adopt the page reference numbers for RFC 3321 that are used in the current Office action.

Page 3, Figure 1 (and related text) of RFC 3321 illustrates and describes two endpoints 1 and 2 that engage in "a mechanism for a SigComp endpoint to confirm which states have been established by its remote SigComp endpoint..." It is respectfully submitted that there is no description regarding the content or definition of the "state".

Page 5, Paragraph 1, "Legend: Message 1..." refers to Figure 2 of RFC 3321 and reads in the first two sentences: "Legend: Message 1 compressed making use of state s_0 is denoted $m_1(s_0)$. The notation $s_1 = s_0 + m_1$ means that state s_1 is created using information from state s_0 and message m_1 ." It is respectfully submitted that there is no description regarding the content or definition of the "state".

Page 9, "(4): If endpoint 2..." is part of Section 5.2 Shared Compression. It refers to shared state. Event (4) reads: "If endpoint 2 uses shared compression, it compares the state identifier values in the "returned SigComp parameters" information with the value it has calculated for the current decompressed message received from endpoint 1. If there is a match then endpoint 2 uses the shared state together with the state it would normally use if shared compression is not supported to compress the next message." It is respectfully submitted that there is no description regarding the content or definition of the "shared state".

Even assuming, *arguendo*, that the comparison of event (4) in the shared compression can correspond to the **comparing** of Claim 27, it is respectfully submitted that the **state** of Claim 27 does not and cannot correspond to the "shared state" of RFC 3321.

For example, on Page 9 [Page 10] of RFC 3321, event (1) reads: "(1): Compressor 1 saves e.g., state(M), which is the uncompressed version of the current application message to be compressed and sent."

Furthermore, on Page 2 [Page 3] of RFC 3321, two definitions for shared terminology are provided:

Shared compression

Compression relative to messages received by the local endpoint prior to the current compressed message.

Shared state

A state used for shared compression consists only of an uncompressed message. This makes the state independent of the compression algorithm.

(*italicized emphasis added*)

It is therefore apparent the "shared state" of RFC 3321 does not and cannot correspond to the **state** of Claim 27. This is further explained at paragraphs [0099] and [0100] of the instant Patent Application.

Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that no art of record (including Hanuu/RFC 3321), either alone or in any combination, anticipates or renders obvious at least the following elements in conjunction with the other elements of their respective claims:

Claim 27: initiating said message-based inter-unit communication by providing, in said first communications unit, **a state comprising communications unit-associated data common to multiple communications messages** to be transmitted between said first communications unit and said second communications unit;

Claim 39: means for receiving a copy of **a state comprising communications unit-associated data common to multiple communications messages** to be transmitted between said communications unit and said external communications unit;

Claim 49: means for generating **a state comprising communications unit-associated data common to multiple communications messages** to be transmitted between said communications unit and said external communications unit;

Claims 28-38, 40-48, and 50-53 depend from independent claims 27, 39, and 49, respectively. These dependent claims recite further elements in combination with the novel elements of the respective claims from which they depend.

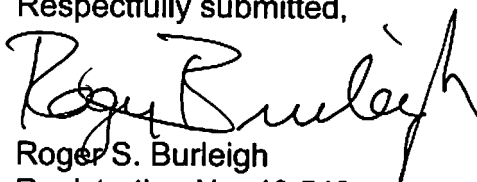
Accordingly, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §102(a) rejections is hereby respectfully requested. Additionally, the allowance of all pending Claims 27-53 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicants believe all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicants request a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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